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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Robert ROSKO et al

Serial Number: 09/591,687

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Group Art Unit: 2765

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
CUSTOMERS WITH SEAMLESS ENTRY TO
A REMOTE SERVER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

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PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.102

This is a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 for accelerated examination of the application above. The application is a regular utility application. The petition fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any further fees or credit any overpayments to deposit account 50-0206.

This petition to make special is being made under MPEP 708.02(VIII). In accordance with that section, applicants hereby request and submit:

- (A) The present petition to make special with fee.
- (B) A set of claims (1-7 and 8-15) directed to a single invention as presented in the utility application referenced herein.
- (C) Applicants have caused a pre-examination search to be made. Applicants commissioned a search in August of 2000 in the following fields of search:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>
705	64, 67, 76, 78
713	155, 167, 171, 182, 185

(D) Applicants submit one copy of each reference found in the pre-examination search activity for this application.

(E) The independent claims of this application are:

1. A method for accessing a remote service provider across a network through a host service provider, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) receiving a username and password from a user at the host server;
 - b) retrieving data from a validation database wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received username and password;
 - c) transmitting said data to the remote service provider;
 - and
 - d) directing the user to the remote service provider.
7. A system for accessing a remote service provider via a single login to a host service provider, comprising:
 - a) a user system having a network data acquisition module;

- b) a remote service provider;
- c) a host service provider for receiving the single login and directing the user to the remote service provider;
- d) a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to said remote service provider; and
- e) a validation database for storing information for accessing the remote service provider.

(F) Applicants submit a detailed discussion of the references from the search report as follows:

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,005,939 to Fortenberry

U.S. Patent No. 6,005,939 to Fortenberry discloses a method and apparatus for storing an Internet user's identity and access rights to world wide web resources. The system includes a passport agent 216 as shown in Fig. 2B. When a user 208 wishes to conduct a transaction at a web site 210, the user 208 requests that the passport agent 216 release specific information to the web site 210. The passport agent 216 comprises a passport server 212 and a passport database 214. The system provides the user with a public key for accessing vendors. See column 8, lines 30-35.

Fortenberry differs from the invention of claim 1, by failing to provide the step of "directing the user to the remote service

provider". In the method of Fortenberry, as shown in Fig. 5 and as described in column 8, lines 23-65, the passport agent 216 provides passport information to the remote provider, but does not direct the user to the remote service provider. Accordingly, the user must independently access the remote site and the passport agent communicates with the remote site only to provide information.

Furthermore, with regard to claim 7, the system of Fortenberry does not include a system for accessing a remote services provider "via a single login to a host service provider" or a "host service provider for receiving the single login and directing the user to the remote service provider." Instead, as explained above, in the Fortenberry system, the user must independently access the remote service provider and does not reach the remote service provider through the host service provider. In the system of Fortenberry, the user prompts the vendor site by providing it with a public key in step 504. Next, the user accesses the passport agent 216 and instructs the agent to send the passport to the vendor. Accordingly, the user must access both sites and cannot access the remote service through a single login to a host service provider as required by claim 7.

2. U.S. Patent No. 6,026,429 to Jones et al. (hereinafter "Jones")

Jones discloses a seamless integration of internet resources. The resources integrated are databases in which a user may be seeking information. Through the use of the system, users are insulated from the intricacies of each database. The user controls the search parameters but does not access the individual databases. The system includes an interactive front end 12 or a browser front end 18 that accepts a user request and a search engine 14 for performing the search specified by the user. Information resources periodically update information repository 20 which is accessed by the user. Unlike the invention of claim 1, Jones does not disclose the step of "retrieving data from a validation database, wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received username and password." The data provided by the user is not used to access remote sites. The search request provided by the user is implemented only after the site is actually accessed. The system appears to access resources in an identical manner for each user without having the user enter access information such as a user ID or password. Similarly, with respect to method claim 7, the system does not comprise "a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to said remote service provider." The system additionally does not provide "a validation database for storing

information for accessing the remote service provider.” As set forth above, the user does not provide the system of Jones with information that permits access to remote resources.

3. U.S. Patent No. 5,790,785 to Klug et al. (hereinafter “Klug”)

Klug discloses a world wide web registration information processing system for assisting world wide web users in registering for sites.

The system includes a registrar web site 100. The user or client node 108 initially accesses the registrar web site 100 and completes a registration application 128. The user may request that information be transferred to additional sites 116 if the user is required to register at these sites. The registrar web site basically functions as a repository for identifying information. In contrast to the invention of claim 1, Klug does not disclose the step of “directing the user to a remote service provider.” Instead, the user accesses the service provider independently and subsequently requests that login information be provided from the registrar web site. See Column 8, lines 20-43. Additionally, with regard claim 7, Klug fails to provide “a system for accessing a remote services provider via a single login to a host service provider” and “a host service provider for receiving the single login and directing the user to the remote service provider.” Instead, the user is required to access the remote service

provider independently and can then request that the remote site access the registrar site to obtain information.

4. U.S. Patent No. 6,049,835 to Gagnon

U.S. Patent No. 6,049,835 to Gagnon discloses a system for providing access to the web using a list of preselected internet locations. A specialized web site 108 contains a book 110 with reviews of web sites 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122. Each web site has a corresponding four digit jump code. See column 5, lines 45-67. After the user is online with the web site 108, the user does not need to input the URL for any of the other web sites. The system disclosed by Gagnon does not include several of the steps required by claim 1. Specifically, Gagnon fails to provide the steps of "receiving a username and password from a user," "retrieving data from a validation database, wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received data," and "transmitting the data to the remote service provider." With regard to claim 7, Gagnon fails to disclose "a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to the remote service provider." Gagnon additionally fails to disclose "a validation database for storing information for accessing a remote service provider."

5. U.S. Patent No. 5,918,239 to Allen et al. (hereinafter "Allen")

Allen discloses a deferred display of web pages corresponding to links selected by a user. The client 10 is provided with a web browser 12 including a browsing thread and a loading thread. The client 10 communicates with a server 20 that includes a web page assessor program 22 that access web pages from a disk 24. The loading thread determines if the web page resides in memory and loads the page if it does currently reside in memory. If the web page does not reside in memory, the loading thread requests the user-selected web page from the server. Allen fails to disclose a method having the steps required by claim 1. Specifically, Allen fails to disclose the steps of "receiving a username and password from a user at the host server", "retrieving data from validation database, wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received data" and "transmitting the data to the remote service provider." With regard to claim 7, Allen fails to disclose "a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to the remote services provider." Allen further fails to disclose "a validation database for storing information for accessing the remote service provider."

6. U.S. Patent No. 6,014,638 to Burge et al. (hereinafter "Burge")

Burge discloses a system for customizing computer displays in accordance with user preferences. The system monitors a user's navigational choices to determine the user's needs and preferences for subsequent displays. The system maintains a user profile database 18 for retaining user information. Burge fails to disclose the method steps of claim 1 including "receiving a username and password from a user at the host server," "retrieving data from a validation database, wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received data" and "transmitting the data to the remote service provider." With regard to claim 7, Burge fails to disclose "a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to the remote services provider." Burge further fails to disclose "a validation database for storing information for accessing the remote service provider."

7. U.S. Patent No. 6,012,088 to Li et al. (hereinafter "Li")

Li discloses an automatic configuration process for configuring an Internet access device. Li deals with general Internet access but does not disclose the steps of "retrieving data from a validation database

wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider and is based at least in part on the received username and password," and "transmitting the data to the remote service provider." With respect to claim 7, Li further fails to disclose "a universal session manager for receiving a user's ID and password and passing data required for access to the remote services provider."

8. U.S. Patent No. 5,898,780 to Liu et al. (hereinafter "Liu")

Liu discloses a method and apparatus for authorizing remote Internet access. The user contacts a local Internet service provider with whom the user does not have an account. The user provides an identifier and the name of the home internet service provider. Two servers perform verification and if the user's data is verified and the user's service has an account with the local service, the user is able to use the local Internet service. Accordingly, Liu does not perform the step provided in claim 1 of "directing the user to a remote service provider". Instead, the user accesses the internet through the local service provider. Furthermore the system of Liu does not include a "system for accessing a remote services provider via a single login to a host service provider" or "a host service provider for receiving the single login and directing the user to the remote service provider" as

required by claim 7. Instead, the user obtains access to only the local service provider.

9. U.S. Patent No. 5,958,007 to Lee et al. (hereinafter "Lee")

Lee discloses a system and method for providing a remote user with secure temporary access to electronic mail through the user's home computer. A user enters identifying data on a remote terminal. The remote terminal communicates the information to a system server. The user information is used to automatically create a customized configuration file for the remote user and the configuration file is stored in the system server. The configuration file is executed in a familiar operating environment. The home computer is accessed and utilized by the user. Lee fails to disclose required features of claim 1 including "a method for accessing a remote service provider across a network through a host service provider." Lee also fails to disclose the steps of transmitting said data to a remote service provider" and "directing the user to the remote service provider." With regard to claim 7, Lee further fails to disclose "a remote service provider" or "directing the user to the remote service provider." Lee additionally fails to disclose a validation database.

In summary, the prior art discovered by the applicants during their pre-examination search activity relates to a variety of internet access systems including

registration sites, profiling sites, and e-mail access sites, all differing from the system and method of the claimed invention. The claimed invention includes the use of a host server for accessing a remote server. The host server retrieves data from a validation database, wherein the data is effective for accessing a remote service provider. The host server receives only a single login for directing the user to the remote service provider.

None of the references, alone or in combination, suggests the use of a host service provider for accessing a remote service provider through a single login by the user. The references further fail to disclose a validation database for storing information for accessing the remote service provider in combination with the capability to direct the user the remote service provider.

On the basis of the foregoing, the applicants respectively request the granting of this petition to make special so that the application will be examined promptly.

Respectfully submitted,

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